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Current Events

[Edited by Clarence W. Gleason, Roxbury Latin School, Boston, Mass., for territory covered by the Association of New England and the Atlantic States; Daniel W. Lothman, East High School, Cleveland, Ohio, for the Middle States, west to the Mississippi River; George Howe, the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, for the Southeastern States; Walter Miller, the University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo., for the Southwestern States; and Franklin H. Potter, the University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, for the territory of the Association west of the Mississippi, exclusive of Louisiana and Texas. News from the Pacific Coast may be sent to Miss Julianne A. Roller, Franklin High School, Portland, Ore., and to Mr. Walter A. Edwards, Los Angeles High School, Los Angeles, Cal. This department will present everything that is properly news—occurrences from month to month, meetings, changes in faculties, performances of various kinds, etc. All news items should be sent to the associate editors named above.]

California

Los Angeles.—Friday afternoon, January 13, the Latin Club of the Los Angeles High School gave a Roman banquet in the school cafeteria. Forty-eight guests, garbed in Roman costume, sat down at the U-shaped table and were served by six *servi* chosen from the first-year class. Place-cards with the Latinized names of the guests, a menu in Latin and Latin songs helped to create the classical atmosphere. At the proper time the mixing bowl was brought in and was crowned with a garland by the *magister bibendi*, who offered a Latin invocation. The offering to the Penates was duly made and the guests were entertained by a dancing girl, a recitation from the *Aeneid* and several toasts. The gorgeous peacock which graced the board must not be forgotten. The high degree of success achieved was due to the labors of a host of committee workers under the direction of Miss McPherron and Miss Peyton, teachers in the Latin department.

In this school the Cicero class has produced a short novel with the Catilinarian conspiracy as its central theme. A committee outlined the plot and the different chapters were assigned to individual students to be worked out in detail. The young people ransacked the available authorities for local color and proper setting. The result, a very creditable production, is appearing as a serial in the *Nuntius*, the semi-monthly paper published by the students of the Latin department.

Pasadena.—The departments of Latin, French and Spanish of the Pasadena High School gave an entertainment on December 9 under the title "Foreign Frolics." From the Latin department a chorus of thirty boys and girls in Roman costume sang Latin songs. Then came three tableaux, Ceres bearing the horn of plenty, Cupid and Psyche, and the three Fates. The main part of the program was a play in Latin in four scenes, dealing with the assassination of Caesar. The scenery was made by the students of the department. The audience united in declaring the whole performance a most successful one.

The main feature of the Christmas program of the Classical Association of Southern California was an instructive and inspiring address upon the teaching of Latin, by Dr. Flavel Luther, for many years President of Trinity College. Professor W. D. Ward, of Occidental College, is president of the Association, and Miss Anne E. Edwards, of the Hollywood High School, Los Angeles, is secretary.

Colorado

Colorado Springs.—The Colorado College Classical Club was organized at an informal meeting of students of Greek and Latin held at the home of Professor Mierow on the evening of November 18. The proceedings on that occasion consisted of classical conundrums and games, special music by a group of girls, who sang a number of Latin songs, and the reading of an article by John Finley of the editorial staff of the New York Times on "Our Need of the Classics." For the Christmas meeting of the club the committee provided a true Yule-tide setting with Christmas tree and an open fire on the hearth; and the exercises of the evening were all in keeping with the season. Miss Lillian Sullivan read a paper on the Roman *Saturnalia* and its survivals in modern Christmas observances. Mr. John Duniway read a poem on the first Christmas day. Special music was furnished by the Girls' Mandolin Club and by Mr. Harry Taylor, who sang a medieval Christmas carol, *Dies est Laetitiae*, and a Latin version of *Stille Nacht*. The entire club joined in the singing of *Adeste Fideles* and *O Abies, O Abies* and "Jingle Bells" with its musical chorus of:

*Tinniit, tinniit, tintinnabulum,
Labimur in glacie, post mulum curtum!*

Massachusetts

Greenfield.—Miss Florence C. Allen, Head of the Latin Department in the Greenfield High School, tells of the vital interest in Latin existing among the students, which led to the planning and successful conduct of a "Roman Circus," called *Ludi Honorarii et Circenses*, by the juniors of the school, in which the seniors and sophomores took active part, the freshmen and faculty attending as guests of honor.

At the appointed hour on the tenth of December the heralds called together the assembly, after which a parade began, and, led by a band of "tuba" players, the school song was sung in Latin. Followed the offering of a sacrifice, and a hymn to Diana and Apollo. After this came the games, *Sagittariae*, *Pancratium*, *Discobulae*, chariot-racing, etc. The full and interesting description written by a sophomore who is one of the editors of the School Notes for a local paper, the Greenfield Recorder, shows clearly that the spirit of the old Roman sports had been caught by the students, although modern conditions demanded the exercise of modern ingenuity in their performance. The chariots used in the race were cleverly constructed from barrels and tricycle wheels! Members of the school, although not organized as a club, meet from time to time to sing songs in Latin; and the evening before the Christmas holidays began, twenty-five of the young people carrying lighted candles sang Christmas carols in Latin beneath the windows of the faculty.

Cambridge.—A joint meeting of the Classical Club of Greater Boston and the Eastern Massachusetts Section of the Classical Association of New England was held at Harvard University on Feb. 11, with the following program: A Word of Welcome, Mr. F. A. Tupper, Head Master of the Brighton High School, President of the Section; "Futuristic Farming," Miss Eva M. Sanford, Radcliffe College; (subject not announced), Miss Marion Park, Dean of Radcliffe College; "The Three Electras," Dr. F. B. Lund, Boston; "Greece of Yesterday and Today," (lantern talk), Miss Emma G. Cummings, Brimmer School, Boston; "Two recent Acquisitions: a gold libation bowl from Olympia and an Athenian terra cotta from Egypt" (lantern talk), Dr. L. D. Caskey, Boston Museum of Fine Arts.

Since the beginning of the new year two meetings of the Reading Section of the Classical Club have been held in the Classical Library of Boston University. At the first Dr. Lund gave his translation of the *Antigone*, and at the second, Professors Rice and Cameron of Boston University translated the *Phormio*.

New Jersey

Bloomfield.—The Northern New Jersey District Meeting of the New Jersey State Classical Association, held in the Bloomfield High School at 10 A. M., Saturday, January 14, was unusually successful. The guests were welcomed by Mr. Edgar S. Stover, Principal of the Bloomfield High School, and the Classical teachers.

The program of the meeting was as follows: Address of Welcome, Mr. George Morris, Superintendent of Schools, Bloomfield; "A Flourishing Latin Club," Miss Maude C. Gay, Latin Club and Latin Department, Bloomfield; "The Virgil Problem," Mr. George Putnam, Montclair; "By-Products of High School Latin," Miss Isabel Holmes, Summit; "Success with First Year Latin," Miss Edna White, Jersey City; "Ancient Pompeii, Its Life and Art," with lantern slides. The lecture was loaned by Dr. Perley O. Place of Syracuse University and was illustrated by slides from his own photographs. This illustrated lecture was read by Mr. Edson T. Lawrence of the Latin Department of the Bloomfield High School.

The Latin Club, under the direction of Miss Schaufler of the Manual Department, assisted in serving the elaborate luncheon, carrying out the color scheme of the club in the purple and gold decorations which included Latin menu cards designed and printed by members of the club.

Millville.—Miss Elizabeth S. Kates sends in the following account of a unique Latin party. "The Latin classes of the High School in Millville had a Latin party. Each class provided a number for the program, but concealed the nature of its number until the appointed evening. By parliamentary procedure, each class developed its sketch. All of the Latin used was translated by the pupils from original English compositions. The teacher's share was correction of the manuscripts and supervision of rehearsals. The classes used freely suggestions made by the *Classical Journal*. At the suggestion of a pupil, over fifty percent of all classes, except beginners, purchased copies of Hill's Vest Pocket Latin-English, English-Latin Dictionary, in order to aid translation of the sketches.

The following program, which had fifty speaking parts, created much merriment:

1. A Living Word Contest. First semester Freshmen.

Two rival lines faced each other. Each pupil had two cardboard letters of the alphabet, one in each hand. When the chairman called an English word, the pupils who held the letters needed in the Latin translation stepped in front of their lines. The side forming the word first scored a point. This contest continued for ten minutes.

2. A Mystery Story. Second semester Freshmen.

Each pupil had a list of Latin adjectives in the three degrees. The chairman had a story written in English, using the names of certain upper classmen. Before each name was a blank space. The chairman asked the group to supply adjectives, stating what gender was needed, until all the blanks were filled. He then read the story with its ludicrous combinations of names and adjectives.

3. Sketch: The Difficulties of a Teacher. First semester Sophomores.

In Latin this group presented a school scene, with different types of pupils caricatured. In spite of the rapid conversation in Latin, the acting made it easy to follow the punishment of the stupid, and the reward of the model pupils.

4. Dialogue: The Hat Sale. First semester Sophomores.

The Latin arguments of the clerk and of the fussy customer were enlivened by the grotesque hats used in the setting.

5. Farce: The Trials of the Trio. Second semester Sophomores.

This scene was written by the class in English; but in each sentence all familiar constructions, like indirect discourse, were put into Latin. The novel result, part in English, part in Latin, held the attention of the audience.

In the story, three singers are arrested and tried for disturbing the peace. This trial gives a chance for the trio to sing some popular songs in Latin.

6. Sketch: The Conspirators Before Cicero. First semester Juniors.

The class dramatized in Latin that interview between Cicero and the conspirators which is described in the Third Oration against Catiline.

7. Sketch: Are you Superstitious? Second semester Seniors.

Using the device of a sewing circle with superstitious members, the group showed the similarity between Roman and modern superstitions. This was given in English. References to current newspapers and magazines proved the modern belief in luck.

8. Sketch: Conundrums. First semester Seniors.

In a humorous recitation these pupils used the question and answer method to develop conundrums. Their originality is seen in these samples. (a) Why is the *-re* of the present infinitive like an apple? Ans.—Because it belongs on the stem. (b) Why is *fero* like the Maurice River? Ans.—Because it is irregular. (c) Why are Latin verbs like love letters? Ans.—Because they are in tense and have personal endings.

At the close of the last number all the classes joined in the Flag Salute, in Latin, and "Te cano, Patria."

North Dakota

According to data recently secured the enrollment in foreign languages in the Certified High Schools of North Dakota for 1918-19 and 1919-20 was as follows:

	1918-19	1919-20	Increase
Latin	2138	2528	390
French	1167	1306	139
Spanish	209	255	46
German	48	67	19
Norse	400	177	223(loss)
Total	3962	4333	371

The increase in Latin was greater than the total increase.

Tennessee

Sewanee.—The Sixteenth Annual Meeting of the Tennessee Philological Association was held at the University of the South, February 24 and 25. The papers of special interest to students of the classics were as follows: "Thucydides: A Study," J. B. Edwards, University of the South; "The Influence of Oriental Philosophy in Greek Thought," T. C. Johnson, Webb School; "Some Imitative Latin Words," E. L. Johnson, Vanderbilt University; "Famous Literary Forgeries, Both Serious and Playful, in Ancient and Modern Times," President R. S. Radford, University of Tennessee; "The Modern Greek Newspaper and the Greek Professor," by David R. Lee, University of Tennessee; "The Ideal Commonwealth in Literature," Robert C. Beale, Southwestern Presbyterian University; "Est Et Non," C. E. Little, George Peabody College for Teachers; "Roman Elements in Vergil's Aeneid," R. B. Steele, Vanderbilt University.

The list of officers of the American Philological Association elected for the ensuing year was inadvertently omitted from the account of the annual meeting in the February number of the *Journal*. The officers are as follows:

President, PROF. F. G. ALLINSON, Brown University;
 Vice-Presidents, PROF. EDWARD K. RAND, Harvard University,
 PROF. SAMUEL E. BASSETT, University of Vermont;
 Secretary-Treasurer, PROF. CLARENCE P. BILL, Western Reserve University;
 Executive Committee, (in addition to above): PROF. DUANE REED STUART,
 Princeton University, DR. RICHARD M. GUMMERE, William
 Penn Charter School, DEAN ROY C. FLICKINGER, North-
 western University, PROF. GORDON J. LAING, McGill Uni-
 versity, PROF. FRANK COLE BABBITT, Trinity College.

In Memoriam

TRACY PECK OF YALE, 1838-1921

Tracy Peck, born in Bristol, Conn., May 24, 1838, graduate of Yale, 1861, student at Berlin and Bonn, 1861-3, Professor of Latin at Cornell and Yale, 1871-1908, Emeritus, 1908, died suddenly on November 24 in Rome, his residence for thirteen years. His interment, for which, with character-